

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DRC-01 ACDA-19 SS-20 NSC-10 EB-11

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2298

SECDEFWASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5085

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR, PARM

SUBJECT: CSCE-CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

BEGIN SUMMARY: AT OCTOBER 23 POLADS MEETING, FRG REP SAID
BONN BELIEVED CSCE HAD REACHED STAGE REQUIREING MORE SPECIFICITY
AS TO "VOLUNATRY CHARACTER" OF CBMS. FRG REP POINTED TO SOVIET
REACTION TO, AND POSITION REGARDING, VARIOUS CBM PROPOSALS MADE
AT GENEVA. FRG OFFERED ITS VIEWS RE SUBJECT (SPEAKING NOTES
BELOW) AND SUGGESTED INSTRUCTED POLADS DISCUSSION OCTOBER 26.

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UK, CANADIAN, BELGIAN AND THRKISH REPS SUPPORTED FRG
INITIATIVE FOR DISCUSSION. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS FOR
USE OCTOBER 26. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN TEXT OF SPEAKING NOTES:

SUBJECT: CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES AT THE CSCE;
CONCRETIZATION OF THE TERM /VOLUNTARY CHARACTER".

1. THE PRESENT STAGE OF THE DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA CONCERNING CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES MAKES IT NECESSARY TO BE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT THE DEGREE TO WHICH WE WOULD LIKE CBM ARRANGEMENTS TO BE BINDING. THE SUBSTANCE OF CBMS IS DESCRIBED IN DOCUMENT C-M(73)79. WITH RESPECT TO THE NATURE OF THESE MEASURES, THE DOCUMENT MERELY SAYS THAT THEY SHOULD BE "VOLUNTARY IN CHARACTER". IT WILL THEREFORE BE NECESSARY FOR US TO AGREE ON THE MEANING OF THIS TERM.

2. IN OUR OPINION, "VOLUNTARY CHARACTER" DOES NOT MEAN -THAT INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS IN THE CSCE WHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE TO TAKE PART IN SUCH ARRANGEMENTS; CBM ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE ACCEPTED BY ALL CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS;

- THAT ARRANGEMENTS ON CBMS ARE, IPSO FACTO, NOT BINDING AT ALL.

3. THE TERM "VOLUNTARY CHARACTER " MEANS THAT THE OBLIGATORY NATURE OF CBM ARRANGEMENTS IS BELOW THE LEVEL OF A CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION. ONE MIGHT SAY THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS ARE BINDING IN A POLITICAL AND MORAL SENSE.

4. THE DANGER THAT SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE INTERPRETED AS NON-OBLIGATORY AT ALL CAN BE AVOIDED:

-IF THE CBMS ARE DESCRIBED AS CLEARLY AS POSSIBLE IN THE ARRANGEMENTS;

-IF THE CSCE PARTICIPANTS ENTER INTO A CLEAR POLITICAL-MORAL COMMITMENT, FOR EXAMPLE:"THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS HAVE AGREED THAT THESE MEASURES SERVE TO BUILD CONFIDENCE.
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THEY UNDERTAKE TO RESPECT THE AGREED MEASURES."

5. VERIFICATION OR A SPECIAL BODY WHICH WOULD REGISTER CBMS WILL NOT BE ENVISAGED. CASES OF NON-RESPECT OF CBMS WILL NOT BE REGARDED AS TREATY VIOLATIONS. HOWEVER, THEY WOULD BE IN CONFLICT WITH THE POLITICAL BASIS AS DEFINED BY THE CSCE. TO THIS EXTENT, THE CBMS WILL BE SELF-ENFORCING.

6. THE FORM WHICH WILL BE CHOSEN FOR CBM ARRANGEMENTS IS STILL TO BE DECIDED. IT SHOULD DEPEND ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS AND ON THE FORM IN WHICH THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE AS A WHOLE ARE RECORDED. IN THIS CONTEXT, WE SUPPORT THE IDEA OF THE "FINAL ACT" AS SUGGESTED IN THE

BRITISH PAPER.
END TEXT
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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To: STATE
SECDEFWASHDC INFO BONN
LONDON
PARIS
ROME
VIENNA
GENEVA

USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE

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